

1 We claim:

2
3 1. An improved plastic basket shopping cart comprising:

4
5 a cart base frame having an upwardly extending rear frame section
6 having handle means mounted thereon;

7
8 at least three wheels rotatably mounted on said cart base frame;

9
10 a plastic basket mounted on said cart base frame, said plastic
11 basket including;

12
13 a base wall, left and right side walls mounted on and extending
14 upwards from said base wall and a front wall mounted on and
15 extending upwards from said base wall and extending between
16 and connecting forward portions of said left and right side
17 walls;

18
19 each of said left and right side walls and said front wall having
20 a plurality of generally rectangular wall openings extending
21 through said left and right side walls and said front wall,
22 said wall openings generally having a height greater than
23 their width;

24
25 at least some of said wall openings on said left and right side
26 walls and said front wall adjacent said base wall being
27 generally square in shape with approximately equal heights and
28 widths for improved structural strength;

1 each of said left and right side walls including generally cross-
2 sectionally arcuate rear flange sections which extend outwards
3 and rearwards therefrom, said rear flange sections each at
4 least partially covering an adjacent portion of said rear
5 frame section to substantially prevent items in said plastic
6 basket from falling out of said plastic basket through a gap
7 between said left and right side walls and said rear frame
8 section; and
9

10 a basket rim support wire extending circumferentially around and
11 passing through upper portions of said left and right side
12 walls and said front wall, the ends of said basket rim support
13 wire connected to and mounted on said rear frame section
14 adjacent an upper portion thereof for increasing the
15 structural strength of said plastic basket on said rear frame
16 section of said cart base frame.
17

18 **2.** The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 1
19 wherein said cart base frame further includes an upwardly extending
20 center basket support strut which engages said base wall, said base
21 wall further including a reinforced plate section operative to
22 provide additional structural support for the connection of said
23 center basket support strut thereto thus strengthening said
24 improved plastic basket shopping cart.
25

26 **3.** The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 1
27 further comprising a rear wall mounted on said rear frame section
28 of said cart base.

1 4. The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 1
2 wherein said generally cross-sectionally arcuate rear flange
3 sections have cross-sectional curvatures approximately equal to the
4 curvature of said adjacent portions of said rear frame section such
5 that said rear flange sections are generally continuously adjacent
6 said adjacent portions of said rear frame section.

7
8 5. The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 1
9 wherein each of said left and right side walls and said front wall
10 include a plurality of intersecting generally horizontal and
11 generally vertical ribs, said generally vertical ribs extending to
12 adjacent the top edges of each of said left and right side walls
13 and said front wall, said generally horizontal ribs on each of said
14 left and right side walls extending to adjacent said front wall.

15
16 6. The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 1
17 further comprising a channel formed in said upper portions of said
18 left and right side walls and said front wall, said channel adapted
19 to receive said basket rim support wire extending circumferentially
20 around and passing through said upper portions of said left and
21 right side walls and said front wall within said channel in order
22 to provide additional structural stability to said plastic basket.

1 7. An improved plastic basket shopping cart comprising:

2
3 a cart base frame having an upwardly extending center basket
4 support strut, an upwardly extending rear frame section having
5 handle means mounted thereon;

6
7 at least three wheels rotatably mounted on said cart base frame;

8
9 a plastic basket mounted on said cart base frame, said plastic
10 basket including;

11
12 a base wall, left and right side walls mounted on and extending
13 upwards from said base wall and a front wall mounted on and
14 extending upwards from said base wall and extending between
15 and connecting forward portions of said left and right side
16 walls;

17
18 said upwardly extending center basket support strut engaging and
19 supporting said base wall, said base wall further including a
20 reinforced plate section operative to provide additional
21 structural support for the connection of said center basket
22 support strut thereto;

23
24 each of said left and right side walls and said front wall having
25 a plurality of wall openings extending through said left and
26 right side walls and said front wall, said wall openings
27 generally having a height greater than their width;

1 at least some of said wall openings on said left and right side
2 walls and said front wall adjacent said base wall having
3 approximately equal heights and widths for improved structural
4 strength;

5
6 each of said left and right side walls including generally cross-
7 sectionally arcuate rear flange sections which extend outwards,
8 and rearwards therefrom, said rear flange sections each at
9 least partially covering an adjacent portion of said rear
10 frame section to substantially prevent items in said plastic
11 basket from falling out of said plastic basket through a gap
12 between said left and right side walls and said rear frame
13 section; and
14

15 a basket rim support wire extending circumferentially around and
16 passing through upper portions of said left and right side
17 walls and said front wall, the ends of said basket rim support
18 wire connected to and mounted on said rear frame section
19 adjacent an upper portion thereof for increasing the
20 structural strength of said plastic basket on said rear frame
21 section of said cart base frame.
22

23 8. The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 7
24 further comprising a rear wall mounted on said rear frame section
25 of said cart base.
26

27 9. The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 7
28 wherein said generally cross-sectionally arcuate rear flange

1 sections have cross-sectional curvatures approximately equal to the
2 curvature of said adjacent portions of said rear frame section such
3 that said rear flange sections are generally continuously adjacent
4 said adjacent portions of said rear frame section.

5
6 **10.** The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 7
7 wherein each of said left and right side walls and said front wall
8 include a plurality of intersecting generally horizontal and
9 generally vertical ribs, said generally vertical ribs extending to
10 adjacent the top edges of each of said left and right side walls
11 and said front wall, said generally horizontal ribs on each of said
12 left and right side walls extending to adjacent said front wall.

13
14 **11.** The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 7
15 further comprising a channel formed in said upper portions of said
16 left and right side walls and said front wall, said channel adapted
17 to receive said basket rim support wire extending circumferentially
18 around and passing through said upper portions of said left and
19 right side walls and said front wall within said channel in order
20 to provide additional structural stability to said plastic basket.